

IAP11 Rec'd PCT/PTO 26 JUN 2004

IN THE SPECIFICATION

*On Page 1, following the Title and before the Technical Field section, please insert the following:*

--This application is a U. S. National Phase Application of PCT International Application PCT/JP2004/019736 filed on December 24, 2004.--

*Pages 2-3, replace the paragraph spanning these pages with the following:*

Here, the principle of an array speaker in a known delay array system which is effective for directivity control and known for a long time will be described with reference to Fig. 13. It is considered that a large number of small-sized speakers 201-1 to 201-n are arranged linearly, and assuming that a straight line connecting a focal point P to each of the speakers 201-1 to 201-n is extended, an arc Z is defined so that the distance from the position of a wall or the acoustic reflector (the focal point) the focal point P is L, virtual speakers 202-1 to 202-n indicated by broken lines shown in Fig. 13 are arranged on the intersection points of the extended straight lines with the arc Z. Since the distance from the virtual speakers 202-1 to 202-n to the focal point P is all L, sounds emitted from each of the speakers 202-1 to 202-n reach the focal point P at the same time.

*On Page 13, please delete the paragraph that begins with "(14)":*

~~(14) The audio output apparatus according to (13), characterized in that the sound signal limited in the frequency band at the band pass filter is outputted to the sound level adjusting circuit.~~

*On Page 14, replace the first full paragraph with the following:*

In addition, by providing the measuring module which measures a plurality of levels of sound signals inputted and the sound level adjusting module which adjusts gains based on the levels measured at the measuring module and outputs a plurality of sound signals so that a level difference between at least two sound signals specified by a viewer is made constant among the plurality of the sound signals, ~~the sound level is adjusted so that that the level difference between at least two sound signals specified by a viewer is made constant among a plurality of the sound signals~~ outputted from the sound level adjusting module to the array speaker unit[.]. Therefore, the subjective and psychological separation can be improved between the contents having a great psychological difference in audibility for the audibility

characteristic other than a volume control such as difference in the frequency bands of the contents and the difference in the ratio of euphonic changes (double or long consonants and syllabic n) because of the differences in languages.

*On Page 27, replace the first full paragraph with the following:*

Next, a second embodiment of the invention will be described. Fig. 6 shows a block diagram showing the configuration of an audio output apparatus according to the second embodiment of the invention, and the same numerals and signs are designated to the same configuration as that shown in Fig. [[1]] 2. The audio output apparatus according to the embodiment shows a more specific example of the first embodiment.